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Humidity 87

July 20, 1917, Temperature 6 a.m. 79 2 p.m. 89
Humidity 79 66

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SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1918.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLE IN FRANCE.

The Enemy's Heavy Losses.

London, July 18.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, writing on the morning of July 18, says:—Fifty German Divisions were brought up on July 15, some of whom were not engaged, so it is open for the enemy to pursue the attack. The enemy suffered very heavily at the Maronvillers massif, advancing under the eyes of French artillery observers. Piles of dead are distinguishable on the slopes and hills. A notable feature in eastern Champagne is the smooth working of the carrier pigeon service under the German bombardment.

A French Advance.

London, July 18.
A French communique says:—We attacked this morning from the region of Fontenay on the Aisne as far as the region of Belleau. We advanced at certain points from two to three kilometres. We have taken prisoners. There was no change during the night on the Marne and in Champagne. South-west of Nanteuil-la-Fosse we brought to a dead stop a violent enemy attack. North of Progneux an attack by enemy Guard troops failed completely.

Restraint German Comment.

London, July 18.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that comments in the German Press on the offensive are characterized by singular restraint. The military correspondent of the *Vossische Zeitung* admits the difficulty of using the factor of surprise and says "without surprise success is hardly to be expected." He expresses the opinion that "we are only at the beginning of the offensive." Other experts take the same line.

Bigger Blow Possible.

London, July 18.
Authoritative quarters in London advise caution in predicting the course of events on the Western Front. Undoubtedly the German attack of July 15 was intended to bring off a great strategic success, but as this has not materialised it is not improbable that they will utilise a large number of divisions still in reserve to deliver an even more powerful blow elsewhere.

GERMAN VOTE OF CREDIT.

Opposed by Independent Socialists.

London, July 14. (Delayed).
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that the Reichstag has passed a Vote of Credit of fifteen thousand million marks. The Independent Socialists voted against the Credit and the Poles abstained.

The Reichstag has adjourned for the summer recess.

It is noteworthy that Count Hertling's reference to Belgium was omitted from the first official report of the speech, which simply said "Count Hertling reviewed the political situation in the West." It was subsequently published with a covering note that the passage was now given fully in order to dissipate any possible misunderstanding in the public mind.

RETIRED ITALIAN GENERALS.

Not a Case of Punishment.

London, July 18.
It is officially explained that a wrong inference has been drawn regarding the announcement made on July 13 concerning General Cadorna and others. They have been placed on the Retired List because they are on longer holding active commands, but this in no way implies that they are being punished, more particularly as the whole subject of the Caporetto defeat is still under investigation.

THE CLAN ROBERTSON REFLOATED.

London, July 16.
Reuter's correspondent at Buenos Aires says that the a.s. Clan Robertson, mentioned on July 14, has been beached in the roadstead and refloated.

PARIS BOMBARDMENT CONTINUES.

London, July 16.
Reuter's correspondent at Paris says that the long-range bombardment continues.

THE PALESTINE CAMPAIGN.

Australians Inflict Heavy Losses.

London, July 18.
A Palestine official message says:—The Australians, in a counter-attack at Abatehleh on July 14, inflicted severe losses. There were one hundred and twenty dead on one Brigade front alone. We bombed El Keitani and Aoman stations, hitting troops, camps and aerodromes.

ENEMY AEROPLANE OVER THANET.

London, July 18.
The Press Bureau announces that a hostile aeroplane flew over Thanet at a great altitude on the evening of July 18, but was immediately driven off.

BRITAIN'S FOOD PRODUCTION.

Prospects of a Satisfactory Situation.

London, July 18.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Protheroe stated that over 300,000 women, 60,000 soldiers and 10,000 German prisoners and interned aliens were now working on the land. The arable area of Britain had been increased by over two million acres. The wheat and oat acreage had each been increased by three quarters of a million and the potato acreage by nearly a quarter of a million. Given an average harvest, the position of the Allies was decidedly better than in 1917 or 1918, and the relief to our tonnage by not having to bring supplies from America was of the greatest assistance.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

RAIDS ON GERMAN RAILWAY.

How War Traffic is Being Hindered.

London, July 18.
The Press Bureau has issued a striking photograph of the damage caused by raids of the British Independent Air Force on the German railway system at Metzlibon. It shows exceptionally destructive bursts in the engine sheds, and workshops and the remains of two incinerated trains. Great damage to the network of lines is also shown. A significant feature is the almost complete absence of rolling stock, thus showing that the twenty-one raids since June 21 upon this important junction have materially reduced the enemy's war traffic.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE FIGHTING IN FRANCE.

Bitter Battles Being Fought.

London, July 17.
A French communique says: South of the Marne, the Germans attacked last night with fresh forces north of St. Agnan, Chapelle and Mont Hodon and succeeded in penetrating La Bourdonnerie. The battle continues bitterly on the wooded slopes immediately south of these points. Farther east, despite very lively attacks, we held the enemy on the southern edge of Bouquigny and Neales woods. The Germans also attempted a powerful effort in the direction of Monvoisin which they seized, but a counter-attack drove them out. Between the Marne and Rheims violent fighting is proceeding at Courton woods. The enemy attack in the region of Vigny completely failed. East of Rheims local enemy attempts were resultless, notably in the region of Prunay. The Germans, who were endeavouring to renew their assaults on Beaumont, sustained a sanguinary defeat. We everywhere entirely maintained our positions.

Situation Distinctly Good.

London, July 17.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters says: It is increasingly clear that the enemy's strategic objective was the occupation of the whole of the right bank of the Marne from Chalons to Chateau Thierry, using the river as a shield for his uncovered flank in the final march to Paris. The attack failed mainly because General Gouraud was constantly posted regarding the enemy's intentions and his sector was thoroughly prepared. The enemy's attempt in the region of Prunay to reach Beaumont which was repulsed with heavy loss was doubtless intended to complete the isolation of Rheims. The enemy, despite his most violent efforts, made no progress on the Marne front this morning. The importance of the battle as a whole lies in the proximity of Montagne-de-Rheims to the scenes of the fighting in the Marne valley. A serious advance eastward in this direction would not only imperil Epernay but Montagne itself, which is exposed to being turned from the south. It is authoritatively stated that hitherto twenty seven German divisions have been identified as actually engaged while, including reserve divisions, probably about fifty enemy divisions are participating in the offensive. Prince Rupprecht's reserves have not been sufficiently drawn upon to exclude the possibility of attack in the north. The German estimate of thirteen thousand prisoners is exaggerated. The situation is officially regarded as distinctly good.

Ludendorff's Lapse.

London, July 18.
The "Daily Chronicle" correspondent at French Headquarters, referring to the apparent aim of the offensive, namely to seize Chalons, the wooded plateau called Montagne de Rheims, Epernay and Montmirail and thus secure Rheims by envelopment, says this vast stretch of the French centre, when occupied, would be the base for a further final operation the nature of which can only be guessed, possibly either an attack westward against Paris or eastward against Verdun, Toul and Nancy. The correspondent says this strategy is, in the opinion of competent soldiers, an extraordinary lapse on the part of Ludendorff, savouring of infatuation, as it is his last stake. It is already doomed. There appears to be no immediate prospect of the enemy reaching Chalons, Epernay or Montmirail, but if they did so at a huge cost they would be no nearer victory however much they inconvenienced the French communications and ravaged the countryside.

French Start to Attack.

London, July 18.
It is authoritatively stated that the French started a considerable attack this morning between Chateau Thierry and Soissons which is believed to be progressing well. The French have retaken Monvoisin and Cheneclercin. The Italians have retaken Clairizet, south-westward of Rheims. The Germans progressed slightly northward of St. Agnan.

British Positions Improved.

London, July 18.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: The Australians had a successful local enterprise on the night of the 17th in the neighbourhood of Villers Bretonneux, advancing the line south-eastward for upwards of a mile of front. They captured two field guns and a number of prisoners and machine-guns. We slightly improved our positions eastward of Hebuterne, successfully raided southward of Hebuterne and drove off raiders southward of Buquoy. There is considerable hostile artillery northward of Bailloul. We secured prisoners in patrol encounters northward of Bethune and westward of Merville. There is great hostile gas anelling on the Villers Bretonneux front also hostile artillery and trench mortar activity in the Albert sector.

Thunder and rainstorms on the 16th hindered air work. We dropped thirteen tons of bombs on Zebrugges, mole, billets at Estalles and Merville and also on aerodromes and dumps. We brought down ten aeroplanes, drove down four and shot down six balloons afame. Nine of our machines are missing. Our night fliers dropped five hundred bombs on rail junctions at Seclin and billets. All returned. A large enemy bomber descended behind our lines.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE FIGHTING IN FRANCE.

A Brilliant Italian Effort.

London, July 18.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing at midnight, says it was a brilliant Italian counter-attack that prevented the Germans reaching the important point of Courcy. The French are delivering counter-attacks as frequent as and more vigorous than the enemy attacks, especially south of the Marne where there are indications that stabilisation is near at hand.

Situation Entirely Favourable.

London, July 18.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, wiring at eight on Wednesday evening, says: The situation is entirely favourable. The enemy east of Rheims has not moved since the collapse of his abortive thrust in the morning in the direction of Beaumont. Fighting continues between Rheims and the Marne and south of the river but the enemy has not seriously advanced anywhere. The battle is more and more degenerating into a series of local actions in which the French infantry have asserted their superiority, turning the German infiltration tactics against the enemy.

Reuter's correspondent at American Headquarters, wiring on Wednesday afternoon, says a downpour of rain slowed up operations. Fighting continues in the region of the counter-attack begun yesterday. Many Germans between the railway and south bank of the Marne apparently escaped to the north bank during the night.

Heroic French Resistance.

London, July 18.
A French communique reports: The battle continued with unbroken determination on the whole front west of Rheims, but notwithstanding the efforts of the enemy he did not succeed in increasing his advance. Our troops by their heroic resistance and incessant counter-attacks stopped the enemy thrust after all the fluctuations of advance and retirement of the day. Actions are progressing south of the Marne on the wooded slopes northward of St. Agnan and Mont Hodon chapel. The sharpest fighting north of Cambilzy resulted in our holding the enemy to the southern outskirts of Banquigny and Chataigniers woods. The enemy succeeded east of Oeuilly in regaining a footing in Monvoisin. Between the Marne and Rheims the battle continues north of Beuil in Kings-wood, which the Germans penetrated and which we are defending foot by foot. The forest of Courton is the theatre of furious combats. The enemy continues to be held. Westward of Anteuil the Germans did not succeed in reaching Pourcy Ditch, which has been the objective of several renewed powerful attacks. A brilliant Italian counter-attack westward of Anteuil drove back the enemy. Enemy corpses lying in front of the lines in the valley of Arbre-de-Ombreux testify to his heavy losses. The situation is unchanged in Vigny sector and south-west of Rheims. East of Rheims we broke an attack between Beaumont-sur-Vesle and Sillery. Our positions are intact on the whole Champagne front.

Americans Regain Positions.

London, July 18.
An American communique states: The Americans in the Marne sector entirely regained possession of the south bank of the river. The enemy north-west of Chateau Thierry re-attempted to attack near Vaux. The attack was completely broken up by infantry and artillery fire before reaching our lines.

FRANCE'S NATIONAL DAY.

Paris, July 15.
A Havas message says: President Wilson, in a telegram to President Poincare, says that July 14, like the American July 4, had taken a new significance, not only for France but the world. "The ocean seems very narrow to-day. France is so close a neighbour to our hearts. The war is being fought to save mankind."

M. Take Jancovic addressed a message to members of the Rumanian Colony assembled in Paris on the occasion of France's National Day, saying: "I should have considered it a great honor to make a speech on the occasion of the France fete, which henceforth will be a universal national festival. The present conflict cannot end except by the complete defeat of Germany. A triple wall must be built around Germany, political, economic and moral, to separate her from free democratic mankind."

WAR ANNIVERSARY SERVICE.

London, July 17.
The House of Commons has agreed to a motion by the Premier, seconded by Mr. Asquith, that the members attend a special service at St. Margaret's Westminster, on 4th August to invoke Divine blessing on our just cause and the brave men upholding it. (Cheers.) The Premier declared that no words of his were required to commend the motion when millions of his fellow countrymen were daily hazarding their lives so that right and justice should prevail on earth and when the fate of our country and the destiny of the world depended on the efforts of them and their comrades from many lands.

THE ALLIED NAVIES.

Paris, July 15.
A Havas message says: M. Leygues, French Minister of Marine, stated that while the British squadrons were holding the German fleet prisoner in the North Sea, the French Navy was barring the Otranto Channel and keeping the Austrian fleet prisoner in the Adriatic, also guarding the eastern Mediterranean, a task in which it was helped by American and Japanese naval forces. The French, together with Allied squadrons had held in check the submarine piracy which in 1917 Germany pretended to be a menace to the Entente, but which is now declining daily. Certain waters of the utmost importance for navigation had been so well kept that now the U-Boats scarcely dare venture there. In three months more than 4,000 vessels traversed these waters and not one had been torpedoed.

(Continued on page 2.)

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

FAMOUS JUGGLER'S DEATH.

London, July 18.
The death is announced of the famous juggler, Cinquevalli.

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, July 18.
The silver market is quiet.

AUSTRALIA'S MONROE DOCTRINE.

Japanese Comment on Mr. Hughes' Speech.

The Tokyo *Asahi*, in noting that the Germans have become convinced of the unity between Britain and her dependencies and despair of the efforts to weaken the bonds, says the Germans now point to a probable cause of conflict between Japan and Australia.

The Tokyo Journal regrets that the Australian Monroe doctrine preached by Mr. W. M. Hughes, the Federal Premier of Australia, has furnished the German Press with material for taking just such a view. "Hands off the Australian Pacific" is the keynote of the Monroe doctrine so earnestly espoused by the Australian Premier, who makes an exception in favour of America alone. That Mr. Hughes is a statesman of decidedly pro-American leanings, the Tokyo Journal proceeds, can be easily inferred from a speech he made in London, attributing the change in the tone of the German Foreign Minister to the great efforts made by America for the prosecution of the war.

Whether the views of Mr. Hughes in favour of an Australian Monroe doctrine are supported by public opinion in the Commonwealth is difficult to know. The Tokyo *Asahi*, but it believes that since the German possessions in the South Seas were occupied by Anglo-Japanese co-operative action, and since the Japanese Navy assumed patrol duty over the entire Pacific, anti-Japanese sentiment, which was strikingly evident among the Australians prior to the war, has subsided.

But no matter what view of the Pacific question is generally held by Australians, proceeds the Tokyo paper, they must understand that so long as it is Japan who is actually fulfilling the duty of guarding the North and South Pacific on behalf of the Allies, it is impossible to exclude Japan from participation in any discussion of affairs dealing with the Pacific. It would, indeed, appear that in framing their policy of defence the Australians ought to take into careful consideration by whom the security of the vast expanse of water, including the North and South Pacific and the Ocean, is actually maintained. This point, the *Asahi* believes, must be fully appreciated by the British people generally, including the thinking classes of Australia, notwithstanding the earnest advocacy by the Australian Premier of his Monroe doctrine.

Seeing, however, that a coming conflict of interests between Japan and Australia is already being whispered in some quarters, our Tokyo contemporary thinks it necessary that any agreement between Japan and Britain regarding the disposal of the German possessions in the South Seas should be given as much publicity as possible. The *Asahi* suggests that the Governments both of Japan and Britain should make public their views on the question at the earliest opportunity.

DONT FORGET.

TO-DAY.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
TO-MORROW.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

GENERAL NEWS.

NOTICES.

Prepaid Advertisements.

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NOTICES.

A Wife for Prince Boris.
According to German papers, the Bulgarian Crown Prince Boris will become engaged to the Archduchess Gabrielle, fourth daughter of the Archduke Frederick. Further, the Archduke Karl Stephen is to be engaged to the Princess Nadezhda, eldest daughter of King Ferdinand of Bulgaria.

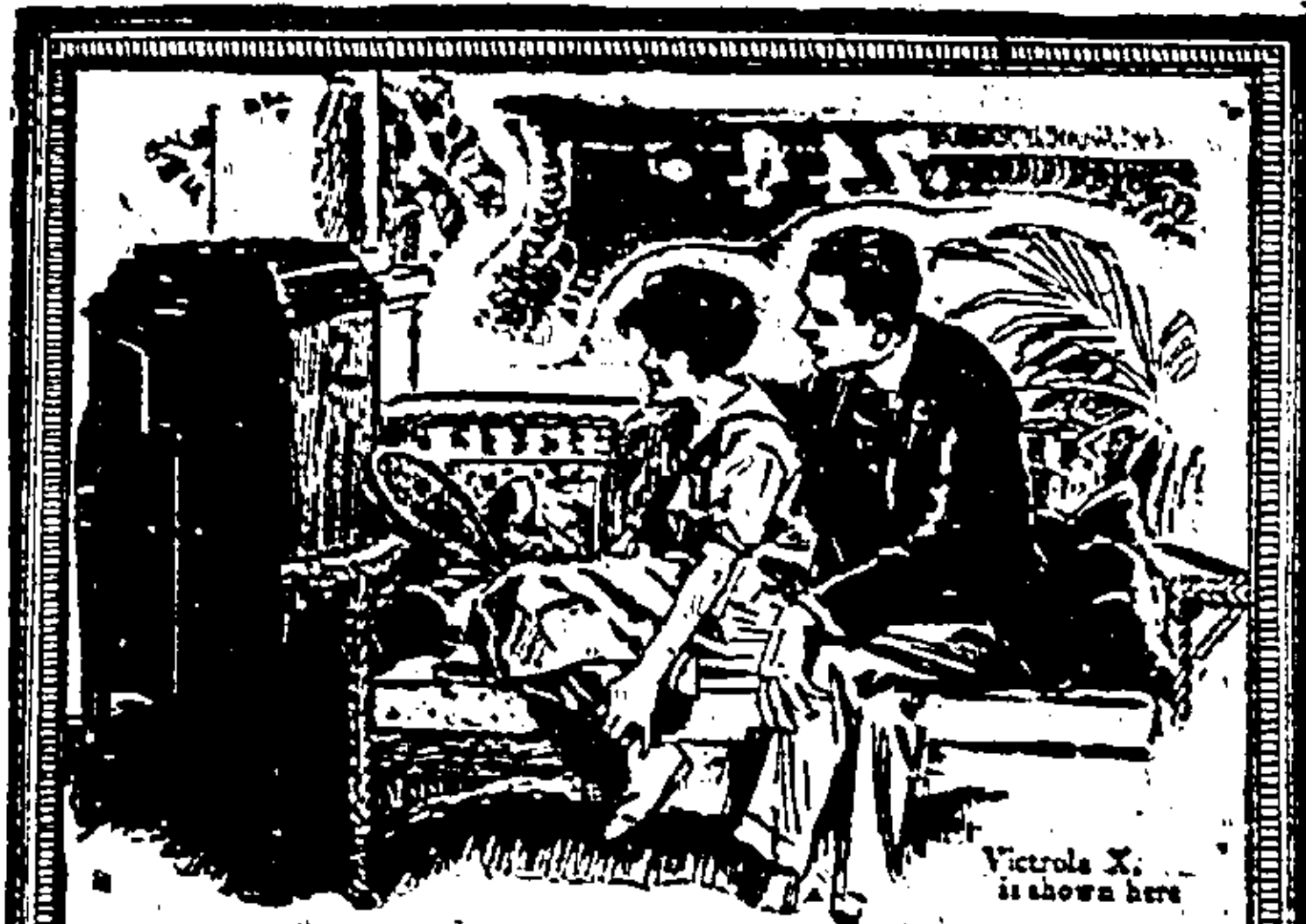
Gerald Du Maurier an Officer.
New York, May 28.—Word was received yesterday from London that Gerald Du Maurier, the English actor-manager, has received a commission in the Irish Guards and will join his regiment on July 1. Du Maurier is a son of George Du Maurier, author of "Trilby" and "Peter Ibbetson." He is at present acting in London at Wyndham's Theatre in the new Barrie play, "Dear Brutus."

Pillars of the British Empire.
Three Canadian provincial Premiers, Messrs. Morris, Martin and Stewart, have been visiting Edinburgh, where they were entertained by the Corporation. Mr. Morris said Canada had sent 400,000 men to the war, and there were another 100,000 in reserve. He anticipated 215,000,000 bushels of wheat would be produced in Canada this year. Mr. Martin said that one thing binding the Empire was the link of sentiment, which link was the Crown.

Germany's Unforgivable Crime.
Bishop Welton preaching recently in St. Paul's at the Centenary Thanksgiving Service of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, said that since the Battle of Jutland it had been ocean liners filled with unarmed and innocent passengers, merchant vessels, and hospital ships on which Germany had wrecked her vengeance. The chivalry of the sea had been destroyed by German savagery, which had condescended to leave men, women, and children exposed in boats many hundreds of miles from land without food or water, and even firing upon them as they were struggling for their lives in the raging sea. These crimes, he said, it was impossible to forget, and almost impossible to forgive.

Lady Missionary's Death.
Miss Julia Neilson Crosby, who had been engaged in missionary work in Japan for nearly 50 years, died at her home in Yokohama on the night of July 4. Miss Crosby was born in New York on July 30 in the year 1833. The funeral took place at the Yokohama Union Church of which Miss Crosby was the first charter member. In recognition of her work in the cause of education among Japanese women Miss Crosby last year received from the Imperial Government the Order of the Blue Ribbon, the honour being presented by Governor Ariyoshi at the Kencho in the presence of many friends, October 8. Miss Crosby came to Japan in June 1871 with Mrs. Louis Pearson and Mrs. Prayn, these three women being the pioneers of the Women's Union Missionary Society.

Girl Wants \$20,850 a Year.
New York, May 28.—Miss Lorena Carroll, 19 years old, a pupil at the Ogeitz School near Philadelphia, told Surrogate Fowler yesterday that she is unable to live on the \$12,500 income allowed her from the estate of her father, Joseph D. Carroll, of Erie, Doerr and Carroll, and asked the Surrogate to increase her allowance to \$20,850. She got an increase from \$7,500 a year ago. She inherited the bulk of her father's estate in trust. Miss Carroll told the court that she is \$3,800 in debt for the expense of her maintenance last year. Her proposed budget for the coming year includes \$5,000 for the upkeep of a touring car and limousine, \$3,000 for wearing apparel, \$3,000 for pleasures, \$4,000 for household expenses shared with her mother, \$850 for insurance, \$2,000 for education, including French and music, and \$1,000 for medical and dental treatment, including medicines. She lives at 590 West End Avenue. The Surrogate will announce a decision later.



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GENERAL NEWS.

Boys and the Bible.
The Headmaster of Ragby stated his conviction at a meeting at the Queen's Hall recently that while the influence of the Bible in the home had declined the practice by boys of reading the Bible had increased.

Rector Resigns to do War Work.

Strongly resenting the action of the Government in excluding the clergy from the scope of the new Military Service Act, the Rev. C. T. Waring, rector of Stoke Fleming, near Dartmouth, has resigned his living. In a letter to

his parishioners he says that the Government attitude had so annoyed him that he had made up his mind to resign sooner than he originally intended, and he was now going to volunteer for war work. The living is of the gross annual value of £255, with residence and 60 acres of glebe. It has been offered to, and accepted by, the Rev. A. W. Smyth, vicar of St. Barnabas, Dartmouth. Dr. Kempthorne, Bishop of Exeter, in his pastoral letter for May, proposed to ask some clergy and laymen to form a tribunal for the careful consideration of all military service cases.

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HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1918.

GERMANY'S GRANDIOSE DREAMS.

The Pan-Germans, judged by their arrogant utterances regarding their aspirations and intentions both at the present time and after the war, are by far the worst informed section of the German public. With the fall of Baron von Kuehlmann, whose views were much too moderate for the "Fatherland Party" the members of the Party and the Pan-Germans generally appear to have been indulging in a very orgie of flimsy bombast as to what they intend to do towards establishing in Africa a compact "Mittel-Africa" similar to the other dream with which they still appear to delude themselves, namely, a "Mittel-Europa." Long ago the Germans, eager to convince a credulous world as to the reality of their precious "Mittel-Europa" scheme, had made published showing in detail its appearance according to the powerful imagination of the Pan-Germans. The maps no doubt created a certain amount of interest and not a little amusement but failed lamentably to convince any but their own bombastic body as to the possibility, to say nothing of the probability, of the Germans ever being able to found such an Empire in Europe. Their African scheme is even more picturesque and of course equally absurd. From the telegram referring to the matter it would be seen that the Pan-Germans professed their interesting little narrative regarding their African dream with one of their characteristically naive remarks to the effect that "only weaklings can believe in the possibility of an understanding with England." They further state that "a victorious Germany will have no paper agreements: she will simply require of England, France, Belgium and Portugal the cession as an indemnity of such portions of their present possessions as Germany may need for the establishment of her Central African Empire." This is very interesting as is the fact or (to be more accurate) the fancy that East Africa, Togoland, South-West Africa are to be the "corner pillars of this new Colonial Empire of Germany."

It will thus be noted that the Pan-Germans are still under the delusion which no-one but themselves—not even the vast majority of their fellow-countrymen—entertain for a moment that the German Armies will yet be able to compel the Allies to admit defeat and that they will be able, as they state, to plunder them to the satisfaction of even the most jingoistic of the Pan-Germans. What the Germans intend to do with their new Colonial Empire in Africa is further explained by the leading Pan-German newspaper, the *Kreuzzeitung*, and from the statement it would appear that the Germans have the matter worked out in their usual methodical manner. Germany intends, it will be learned with interest, to develop the new Empire into a great military power, with carefully protected wireless stations, roads and railways, shore batteries and depots for raw material, food and munitions and doubtless a host of other things that are not mentioned. But in mentioning the matter, the Germans seem wholly oblivious of the fact that when they had large tracts of African territory and had the opportunity of founding something as near an Empire as they are ever likely to found, they failed lamentably and for the same reason as they failed to make a success of any of their other colonies in other parts of the world, namely, owing to their inability to treat the natives properly and to eliminate from their commercial affairs the military element with all its irksome officialdom and worse faults. Colonial possessions that do not pay their way, that are not, after a reasonable period, self-supporting, are merely a drain on the mother country and such were practically all Germany's colonial possessions. We had an admirable example of this sort of Colonial muddling when the Germans had Tsingtao, which from the beginning received a large annual subsidy from Germany. It was, of course, in the hands of a Military Governor and consequently its commercial potentialities were made subservient to its supposed military value.

The fact is, as can easily be proved, the Germans have shown themselves quite incapable of successfully founding colonies in any part of the world; and as they are not likely to change their methods they are unlikely to be successful in the future—should they have the opportunity, which is even more unlikely—where they have failed so signally in the past. Before the eyes of the German public, we read, is dangled this fanciful idea of a "Mittel-Europa" and a "Mittel-Africa" so that, according to the Pan-Germans, "Germany may make for herself a great place among the nations." No one will deny that the Germans had already made for themselves a great place among the nations, a position which they might have retained had they not allowed themselves to become obsessed by such grandiose schemes such as those mentioned, schemes absolutely unfeasible for reasons obvious to all save the Pan-Germans, who seem determined to delude themselves until their great awakening comes.

Conscription in Singapore.

The facts contained in a recent telegram to the South China Morning Post regarding the Conscription scheme in Singapore have aroused a deal of interest here. It would seem that the authorities in the Southern port have gone a little more thoroughly into the question of allowances to wives, children and other dependents of the men conscripted than has been the case in Hongkong, for a scheme has been resolved upon whereby the Governor makes regulations to deal with such cases. Moreover, it has been decided that these allowances are to apply to the cases of men who have already left on active service. This is only a just and reasonable step, for it would surely be a hardship for men who have volunteered and gone to fight to have denied their privileges granted to men conscripted. We hope, therefore, that the scheme which the Hongkong authorities have under consideration will deal in a liberal manner with this particular question.

Different Methods.

It would appear that in this matter of Conscription there is no uniformity of ideas between the various Crown Colonies. Each appears to take up the question in its own way. In our own case, it has been decided that the men called up shall be sent to India, but in Singapore this point does not seem to have been definitely decided. In introducing the Conscription Bill, the Attorney General in Singapore said the men were required for service "in Europe or elsewhere," and that there is still an intention of sending men home appears from the statement now made that the Government is prepared to assist financially in the sending of women and families home with the men. That is a far better scheme than Hongkong's, and incidentally it overcomes the difficult question of making sufficient allowances for wives in Colonies where the high cost of living necessarily demands a high rate of allowances. Another point, which concerns the men themselves, is that the General in Singapore has definitely stated that most of the men will be recommended for commissions. Here in Hongkong there has been a deal of talk as to the probability of men getting commissioned rank, but so far no pronouncement has been officially made. Cannot the authorities take a leaf out of Singapore's book and prevent doubts on these and other points at rest?

Enemy Subjects in China.

It seems that although substantial agreement has been reached as a result of the Anglo-German Prisoners of War Conference at the Hague there is a delay in the ratification of the understanding because the Germans desire "a satisfactory settlement" of the position of the Germans in China. It will be recalled that during the sitting of the Conference a host was made by the enemy that the German delegates had succeeded in getting cancelled the arrangements for the deportation of enemy subjects from China, but that this was subsequently denied. At any rate, it is now evident that this has been one of the subjects discussed and that even yet it is not definitely settled. Why the Allies should listen to the German threats on this matter we cannot say. The plain facts are that China has declared war on Germany, that enemy subjects have been known to be up to the Hunnish methods of intrigue, and that China, as much as any other belligerent country, has a perfect right either to intern or deport all Germans on Chinese territory. Indeed, knowing what we do of German aspirations in the Far East and of their determination to stop at nothing to attain their ends, one or other of these steps is an urgent necessity. This is not moment for dealing soft-heartedly with Huns; and we sincerely hope that even yet we shall witness a wholesale bundling of enemy subjects out of China, where their presence can only lead to harmful results.

DAY BY DAY.

AN OPTIMIST IS A MAN WHO DOES NOT CARE WHAT HAPPENS SO LONG AS IT DOESN'T HAPPEN TO HIM.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the 50th birthday of the King of Greece.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 3d.

Infected Port.
Singapore has declared Hongkong an infected port.
Exempted from Registration.
The Hongkong Automobile Association is exempted from registration under the Societies Ordinance.

Conscription Appeal Assessor.
His Excellency the Governor has appointed Mr. Charles Herbert Philpott Hay to act as Assessor upon appeals to the Governor in Council under the provisions of the General Military Service Ordinance, 1918; in succession to the Honorable Mr. Percy Hobson Holyoak.

A Batch of Gamblers.
At the Police Court this morning, 19 men were charged before Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe with gambling. Inspector Sim said that gambling had been going on for some days in a house at Wanchai. All the defendants admitted the offence and his Worship inflicted fines of \$3, or six days' hard labour, each.

Child Cruelty Case.
A Chinese woman was charged on remand, before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with ill-treating a servant girl. Mr. Crow appeared for the defence. The evidence was given at a previous hearing. His Worship bound the defendant over in a bond of \$100 for six months.

Land Sales.
At the P. W. D. offices on August 6, there is to be sold by auction Kowloon Island Lot 1359, which has an area of 2,820 square feet, the most price being \$11,280. On the same day, Island Lot 2281, Babington Path, with an area of about 7,573 square feet, is to be sold, the most price in this instance being \$3,786.

Police Appointments.
His Excellency the Governor has appointed Mr. Philip Pavell John Woodhouse to act as Captain Superintendent of Police and Mr. Thomas Henry King to act as Deputy Superintendent of Police during the absence on leave of the Honourable Mr. Charles McIlvaine Messer or until further notice.

Acting Appointments.
His Excellency the Governor appointed Mrs. Alice D. H. Hickling to act as Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. J. L. McPherson to act as Secretary to the Sanitary Board, during the absence on leave of Mrs. Daisy Annabella Murdoch Gale or until further notice, with effect from the 17th July, 1918.

To Exporters.
It is notified that under instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, replies to telegraphic applications for permission to export restricted goods must be paid for. The Superintendent of Imports and Exports is therefore authorised to require applicants for such permission to pay to him the sum of \$7.50 in addition to the cost of the homeward telegram. This will have effect from 1st August, 1918.

A Battle Royal.
Eight Chinese sandwiched themselves in front of the dock before Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, at the Police Court this morning, charged with fighting. It appears that one of the men was cutting turf when he accidentally collided with another man. Words were exchanged and these quickly gave way to blows. One man who was getting the worst of the encounter sent out the "S. O. S." to a handful of clansmen working in the vicinity, and his antagonist was soon overpowered. The matter might have ended there but for the fact that the clansmen of the vanquished one appeared in the scene, and taking a hand, a battle royal followed; the implements of warfare used being bars of iron, stones, bamboo poles and other useful weapons. The first three defendants were fined \$2 each and bound over and the fourth was also bound over. The rest were discharged.

THE TRIBUNAL.

Yesterday Afternoon's Cases.

At yesterday's sitting of the General Military Service Tribunal, the cases were considered of the following employees of the Taikoo Sugar Refining Company:—Messrs. E. J. B. Oak, W. O. Jackson, J. McCubbin, J. McIntyre, J. Mainhead, A. Nicol, E. O. Barker, W. P. South, J. Sloan and C. Young. Mr. W. Murray Scott appeared for the Company.

The Chairman said the Tribunal had read the papers and understood that the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, as indeed they knew, was an entirely British concern. And they saw that Mr. Murray Scott told them that the refinery had a larger capacity and output than any other sugar refinery in Asia. The Company asked for the absolute exemption of all ten men before the Tribunal, and it was understood from the papers that the work was carried on—of course throughout the 24 hours—in three shifts, and that enough men were required of course to work all these three shifts. That was to say the sugar boiler, who they understood were experts trained as sugar boilers before they came here, and the super-visors or house foremen. The staff in August 1914 was 45 Europeans, including two men who were then in England on leave, leaving 43 actually in Hongkong. They had a Chinese staff of 1,180 and contract labour varied between 900 and 1,600, so that the total number of Chinese to deal with was from 2,000 to 2,700 in August 1914. To-day the European staff was 41, of whom one was on leave, and the number of Chinese had been largely increased. Three men had left the Colony for military service.

After the Chairman had dealt with the cases individually, Mr. Murray Scott urged that all the men were experts and they would be quite unable to replace them in the Colony.

The Chairman:—You put it to us that notwithstanding this large European staff you cannot spare any individual man of those before us?—We cannot spare a man without leaving a department un-supervised.

You cannot spare a sugar boiler or a super-visor?—No.
The Chairman remarked that a member of the Tribunal suggested that Mr. Nicol had been on leave. Mr. Murray Scott:—He was away on sick leave.

How was his work done in his absence?—He is undoing some of the work that was done in his absence at the expense of the Company. (Laughter.)

Major Morgan asked for non-exemption in the case of five men. The Tribunal decided that Messrs. Young, Beck and Nicol would not be exempted and the others would be exempted.

Mr. A. G. Graham.
In the case of Mr. A. G. Graham, aged 30, married, the Chairman said he was formerly a storekeeper in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., but just recently he left the Company.

No exemption was granted and Mr. Graham was advised to see Mr. Fletcher regarding allowances.

W. S. Bailey and Co.
The case of Mr. T. Ramsey, of Messrs. W. S. Bailey and Co., was next considered. Mr. D. J. Lewis appeared for the company.

Reading from the papers, the Chairman said that the firm, carried on business as shipbuilders and engineers. They also understood that at present the Company had on hand some considerable contracts both mercantile and for the Admiralty. The general mercantile work had also much increased during the war. The Company put it to the Tribunal that its work was in Imperial interests and in the essential interests of the Colony, and on that point the Tribunal did not wish anything further to be said. They also put it forward as a claim for the exemption of Mr. Ramsey. The pre-war staff was the same as to-day.

Mr. Lewis said Mr. Ramsey was quite prepared to go but it was a question as to whether he would be better employed here or in the trenches as a private soldier.

The question as to the effect on the Admiralty contracts if Mr. Ramsey left was raised.

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

The Question of Local Government.

The Preliminary Report on the discussions in the sections of the Dutch Second Chamber on the 1918 Indian Estimates has been published. Some members complained of a lack of steadiness in the Minister's policy, more particularly as regarded the mining industry and the defences. A lack of activity was also noticeable in the field of legislation and in the improvement of the relations between the various races. General regret was expressed that so little progress was being made in the reorganisation of local government. A number of members were of opinion that there should be an end of the wavering, sometimes hostile attitude towards the Sarakat Islam on the part of the officials in the Outer Possessions. The 760,000 Chinese are pressing forward their demand for a more just treatment, on an equal footing with Europeans. Some members believed the Government had too long turned a deaf ear to those just demands. Others thought the equalisation of all Chinese with Europeans would constitute a grievance to the natives. Referring to the various harbour works, regrets were expressed that the "prau" harbour at Semarang, which had been begun ten years ago, had not progressed far enough to be taken into service. A speedier carrying out of the harbour improvements of Benjoewangi and the construction of a good harbour at Bankoelm were also urged.

Major Morgan made no claim and the Tribunal decided that Mr. Ramsey should be exempted.

Mr. Bailey then made a statement during which he remarked that sometime ago both Mr. Ramsey and Mr. Goodwin wanted to go but he told them he could not spare them.

Messrs. Lever Bros.
The last case taken was that of Mr. L. D. McNicol, of Messrs. Lever Bros.

The Chairman said the Company put it to the Tribunal that the sale in China of soap manufactured in England by Messrs. Lever Bros. and associated firms was of Imperial importance because by the manufacture of soap was produced the by-product, glycerine, which was used for explosives.

The Chairman (to Mr. McNicol):—Are we right in supposing that the export of soap from England during the war is very largely decreased?

Mr. McNicol said he could not answer that, as he had not got the figures from the other end. The figures at this end had increased.

You work with Harry Winking & Co.?—The offices are entirely apart, but in a kind of way we are with them. We work from the same address; that is all.

They are agents in Hongkong?—Yes.

And they could carry on during the war as agents for South China?—That depends on the reply to the question raised as to the probable value of the glycerine produced.

You volunteered before the Military Service Commission last year?—Yes I did.

And we understand that while it is your duty to say you cannot be spared you would be very glad to go?—Personally I should like to go but I am in rather a strange position.

The Tribunal decided to call up Mr. McNicol.

A Statement Corrected.

The Chairman:—Just before the Tribunal rises, the Tribunal has received a letter from Messrs. Wm. Powell and Co. very frankly correcting an erroneous statement made to the Tribunal during the enquiry into their case, the erroneous statement being that the work of re-furnishing the Empress of Asia and Empress of Russia had been completely done by themselves, whereas they find that this re-furnishing was in fact done partly by themselves and partly by Messrs. Lane Crawford and Company. This confirms the remark made at the time by a member of the Tribunal that work of this kind was also done by other firms in the Colony and it does not alter the decision of the Tribunal.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

From now onwards Jack Tar may write one love letter every seven days that no Censor's eye may pry into. The Privilege Envelope, long ago past its experimental state in the Army, is quite new to the lower deck, which will now be put upon its honour to restrict the weekly missive to family and private affairs. One other concession and the two services will be "pega." Letters may come home without a stamp from the soldier on active service; whereas the sailor on active service has to pay his penny (or three-halfpence) per epistle unless there are no postage stamps available, an elastic provision which is not stretched in his favour.

References to poets and diarists of the past do not assist us very much in our search for the strictly proper pronunciation of tea. It seems largely to have been dictated by the prevailing custom. Pope in rhyming "tea" with "obey" was reflecting an individual taste rather than a popular pronunciation; for Edward Young, a contemporary, rhymed it with "thee." Peppys wrote it tea and tea. Yet a contemporaneous Englishman in a letter dated June 27, 1615 (preserved by the East India Company), refers to the China drink as "chaw"—his rendering of the native word Tcha.

Our books on naval history which give, in terms of flag, Nelson's signal at Trafalgar, will have to be brought up to date to include, in Morse dots and dashes, the immortal "St. George for England" of Zeebrugge. Our Japanese Allies will be the first to note the fine watchword, for Togo, an intense admirer of Nelson, employed a variant of the Trafalgar signal in the great sea battle with Russia. Said he in his report "I ran up this signal for all the ships in sight—'The fate of the Empire depends upon this event; every man is expected to do his utmost.'"

Times have changed since Dr. Johnson said: "The Irish mix better with the English than the Scotch do; their language is nearer to English; as a proof of which they succeed very well as players, which Scotchmen do not. Then, Sir, they have not the extreme nationality which we find in the Scotch." By their "language" the Doctor obviously means their manner of speaking English. The success he notes is repeated by the "Playboy" score.

A word is wanted. What word have we to express the antithesis of militarism? "Civilism" and "civilianism" were suggested in a club debate on the point recently; but neither meets the case. As the war goes on, the need for the missing word grows keener and keener. In its significance the word must be as effective and definite as "militarism."

Of mispelt surnames, especially those of remote origin, there is no end, and in the category that of the new Irish Chief Secretary has a place. How often the Shortts or the Scotts came by an extra "t" is inexplicable unless we assume that it was through ignorance. Each family at any rate can boast of an old-time celebrity who disdained the use of the superfluous consonant. There was the Michael Scott praised by Roger Bacon, and in George II's reign the James Short who made and sold to the King of Spain for \$1,200 the finest telescope then in the world.

A link with Voltaire and Rousseau has been snapped by the death of the late Sir H. M. Stanley's mother-in-law, Mrs. Gertrude Tennant. A friend of this descendant of Cromwell was Louis Philippe. He used to tell how when he was a boy, playing in the Palace of Versailles, he was dressed in a red coat, and laid his hand upon the future king's head; and said: "Remember that you have had the blessing of Voltaire." Upon another occasion the boy's tutor pointed to a man in the street, saying: "You will be glad to have seen that man; that is Jean Jacques."

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MANILA	Yucensang	Fri., 2nd Aug. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE.—This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war, but will present a monthly service to maintain with Calcutta by the p.m. "KWAISANG" and "YIFIN" calling at Singapore and Penang. The former vessel has excellent passenger accommodation, is fitted with electric light and fans, and carries a fully qualified surgeon.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Ship on the Rocks.

It is reported from Mopao that on June 30th at about 4 p.m. the Otowa Maru (1,431 tons), owned by the Maruni Kisen Kaisha, Takao, E. Yotohn province, ran on the rocks off Kurishima, Zenu Nando, Chosen. The vessel was badly damaged and subsequently sunk. The crew safely landed. The damage is put down at yen 900,000. The cause of the accident is attributed to the dense fog and rapid current. The steamer was not insured.

New N.Y.K. Buildings.

The palatial buildings of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which were formally opened at Kobe recently have added another handsome structure to the Bund architecture. The first stone was laid on July 7, 1915, the building, as far as external structure was concerned, being completed on May 10 last. The building occupies an area of 348 tatso. On the ground floor are the general offices with an entrance on the west and south. The arches and pillars used are of Sarasa marble, the floors being of tile and the walls of granite. A Kasumi marble counter, runs round the outside of the clerks department. The passenger department is a scheme in white. The second storey provides a reception room, room for the manager, a telephone exchange, a vault and lavatories. On the third floor, the chief rooms are the social halls most lavishly decorated, which will be used for the reception of distinguished guests. There are also smaller reception rooms and a library. On the north-east side a large apartment has been set aside for the holding of directors' meetings and for the meetings of employees. To the rear are rooms for superintendents, engineers and draughtsmen. The building contains thirty rooms. Dr. T. Sone, of Tokio, was the architect and the builders were Messrs. Hashimoto and Co. of Osaka.

A 5,548 Ton Steamer in 27 Days.

I spent this morning with Mr. Schwab, Mr. Piez, and Mr. Hurley, the heads of the American International Shipbuilding Corporation, at the most significant launching that has taken place since America entered the war. It was that of the steel collier ruckahoe at the plant of the New York Shipbuilding Company, Camden, New Jersey (says Mr. Fullerton L. Waldo, writing from Philadelphia on May 5 to the "Observer"). This vessel, of 5,548 tons has made a world's record for speed of construction—and it was sound construction. She was launched in just 27 days 2 hours and 55 minutes from the laying of the keel. She is a ship 32ft. 6in. long, 4ft. 3in. broad, 27ft. 6in. deep. Before this achievement the best record was that of Skinner and Eddy, in Seattle, who on April 22 sent forth the 3,800-ton West Liange after 55 days. The Luckahoe has been completed 41 days in advance of her own schedule. She was promised for June 15.

Blue Book Rates.

The adjustment of the Blue Book rates will (says the "Journal of Commerce") help to stimulate interest in shipping at a period when people were getting rather tired of seeing their trading losses mounting up higher and higher day after day, and it is a pity that the matter was not settled earlier that it was. Several steamship companies have been actually working at a loss, and the advance has come, in several instances, just in time to prevent disaster. Presumably the large amount of Government-owned tonnage can now be placed on the market with more confidence, and the need of a British shipping bank thus becomes apparent. If ships can earn, fair profits shipping people will put their capital into them and as money is likely to be dear in the future, very careful financing of shipping ventures must be the order of the day for a long time to come. If there are to be periods of fierce competition for the world's carrying business after the war, the companies with the largest reserves will stand the best chance of coming out on top. It is very satisfactory in this connection to reflect on the fact that not one of the German shipping companies will finish up with much in the shape of surplus funds, although several at the beginning of the war had quite substantial amounts held in reserve.

Peat for Coal.

To cope with the possible shortage of coal during winter and spring months enormous quantities of peat are being cut in the vast ranges of bogs in the Mid-lands and West of Ireland.

STOP PRESS TELEGRAMS.

GREAT BATTLE ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE COMPLETELY BROKEN.

Brilliant French Success.

London, July 20.

A Havas Message from Paris, dated July 17, says that more information now to hand shows the importance of the divisions engaged by the Germans in the present battle regarding their quality and number. It helps to form the conclusion that the attack was intended as a main effort. About twenty divisions have been in action between Rheims and Chateau Thierry and the same number between Rheims and Meuse. Numerous corps, being all first-quality troops representing the elite of the German army, have been identified. These fine divisions have been sorely tried in the attack and so reduced in numbers that they will not for some time appear again on the battlefield. It is fully confirmed that the enemy losses have been terrible. Even before the attack was launched their ranks were thinned by the French counter preparation fire which caught them massed in the trenches for the attack. The surprise to the German troops has been, according to prisoners, very great. Following their usual custom officers had been putting heart into them with talk of easy victory and that they would find in front of them only a thin, demoralised line of troops. The offensive, with the same object, had been dubbed "friedens sturm" (peace offensive). They were so sure of success that they counted on reaching Compiègne at mid-day on the first day, spending the night at Mont Mirail. Actually the enemy's situation on the south bank of the Marne was very precarious, the difficulties of supply being enormous. Maybe they will be able to continue their local attacks at various points but their great offensive is already completely broken.

A further message written on July 18 says that an Associated Press despatch in the *New York Herald* relates how General Gouraud, the mutilated hero of the Dardanelles, barred the Crown Prince's road in Champagne, east of Rheims, and brought the Germans to a standstill in one day with comparatively insignificant losses among our own men as a consequence of his admirable defensive preparations. Over twenty enemy divisions have been identified in the first line in this sector of the front alone. By the end of the first day's fighting half of these divisions had been so badly handled that they have lost part of their value as fighting units for a time. The precautions which the French had taken before the offensive began were such that the Germans were unable to capture a single prisoner in Champagne for several days preceding the attack. They were thus deprived of the possibility of obtaining information regarding the French plans. When the German artillery preparation started on the night of July 14 the French replied with equally powerful fire and everything for many miles trembled until dawn, when the German infantry came over. The advancing waves were of great density, giving hundreds of French seventy-five a point-blank target.

At the same time small centres of resistance, comprising of French advance posts, opened fire with machine-guns, which did a terrific execution, these isolated detachments holding up the enemy masses for several hours and giving ample time to their comrades holding the line of resistance to organise and bring into play all their means of defence.

The perfect execution of General Gouraud's defence plans prevented the enemy making a breach at any point of this sector, although during the twenty-four hours the Crown Prince threw incessantly renewed waves of his best troops forward in his determination to get through to Chalons.

Successful French Counter-Offensive.

London, July 18.

News received this evening concerning the French counter-offensive shows that the attack began at 4.30 in the morning on a front of twenty-seven miles. Tanks participated but there was no artillery preparation. On the extreme left the French captured the heights overlooking Fontenoy, and progressed to Mont de Paris, which is within a mile of Soissons, and reached the ravine of the river Oise close to Soissons on a front of five miles to Brezancy. This is the maximum advance, being nearly eight miles at the deepest point. It is reported that four thousand Germans have been taken prisoner and thirty guns captured, besides other material. The Americans participated and farther south the Americans captured Vieux, and advanced three miles beyond.

Further south again, on the heights overlooking the Valley of Oureq, the enemy reacted in a somewhat hasty counter-attack. No information has yet been received as to what has occurred there. Still farther south, the French are on the western outskirts of Omy and Neuville St. Front, and from there to Balleu, the average depth of the advance being about three miles. East of Rheims, the French have recaptured Prunay.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes under date of July 19, as follows:—

The British Consul General in Canton communicated to the Military Governor yesterday, that he had received instructions from the British Minister at Peking to the effect that the Germans in Shanghai are now contemplating sending some of their number to the interior with a view to carrying on German propaganda. He requested that necessary precautions should be taken in order to prevent the Germans here from taking similar steps.

It is reported that the Central Government, with a view to the exchanging of opinion between the North and South has sent Mr. Ting Nai Young, the ex-Sal Commissioner to Canton, to discuss matters with the Local Authority. Mr. Ting now stays at Shanghai, but his attaché has arrived at Canton to interview some important persons.

A newly-arrived member of Parliament at Canton has sent a letter to the Chairman of the Parliament stating that he under-

stood about 60 members have left Shanghai for Canton since the 18th inst. and that a quorum can be formed. A meeting is to be held about August 1st. He suggested that a day should be appointed for the formal meeting in order to maintain the confidence of the people.

Photos.

From Ah Fong we have received a number of photos of the funeral of the late Crown Sergt. Glendinning.

For Wounded Soldiers.

An additional gift from Manila of one case of tobacco cuttings presented by the La Insular Cigar Factory through the Acting British Vice Consul, Manila, has been received by the War Charities Committee, Hongkong, for forwarding to London for distribution among the wounded in Hospital.

Appeal Tribunal.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Council is to sit at 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, the 25th July, to hear appeals by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire from the decision of the General Military Service Tribunal.

A VITAL PROBLEM.

The Re-Settlement of South-Eastern Europe.

A correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* writes:—

Not nearly enough notice has been taken in Great Britain of the Rome Conference. Most people, indeed, would probably ask at once, What is the Rome Conference? Such are the ramifications, such the gigantic sweep, of this war that a programme can be launched and decisions taken vitally affecting some 20,000,000 people, and yet we in these islands, though the bulwark of the Allied cause, may know little or nothing about it.

The Rome Conference was a gathering of the representatives of all the oppressed nationalities of Austria-Hungary to agree upon a declaration of common policy and to harmonise that policy with Italian aspirations. These were its purposes. Those also were its results. And, incidentally, it had a further result—it helped to drive Count Czernin from office. The congress was thus not only a really brilliant success in itself, but it furnished the foundation on which will be built hereafter the fabric of an emancipated Southern Europe.

For what is it that has been accomplished? All the races whom the German-speaking Austrians held down in the north and the Hungarian Magyars in the southern half of the Dual Monarchy have sunk their differences, have met in friendly consultation, have recognised the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy as "an instrument of Germanic domination" and the common enemy of them all, and have pledged one another their mutual help in securing complete independence. And Italy who, like the Czechs and the Southern Slavs, has suffered and is still suffering under Austrian tyranny, has blessed this union of the insurgent subject-races of the realm of the Hapsburgs, has officially pronounced their liberation to be a "vital interest" of her own, and looks forward, as she well may, to a future of helpful co-operation with them when at last they are united and free.

These on the face of it are auspicious developments. But they are even more than that. They mark a definite upward swing in the process of emancipating the martyred races and nationalities of Europe which all the Allies, but Great Britain in particular, have bound themselves to carry to completion. The union of severed peoples, the restoration of disrupted States, the simplification of European especially Southern politics by satisfying the claims of blood and speech and historic consciousness, the abolition of whatever prevents a distinctive and homogeneous group of races or nationality from deciding its own destiny and expanding to the full limits of its individual power and genius—it is to these principles above all others that we have nailed our colours and these principles are endorsed, are enshrined, are advanced by the Rome Conference.

But in applying these principles we have thought, naturally enough, chiefly of countries like Belgium and the Scandinavian kingdoms, and Greece and the Balkan States, and only secondarily of that intricate mosaic of races which forms the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Even now it is insufficiently recognised that Italy is fighting not only for the redemption of her own nationals, but for the fulfilment throughout South-Eastern Europe of precisely those ideals of freedom and justice for which we are struggling in France and Flanders. Even now great numbers of people in Great Britain, absorbed in the contest with Germany, are only half conscious that to our Italian Ally and to Serbia and Montenegro and Greece, and to all the Slavs of Southern Europe, it is not Germany, but Austria-Hungary that is the enemy; it is not from Germany but from Austria-Hungary that they have suffered, and the sign and proof of victory for them will be the measure of their success in throwing off the shroud of Vienna and Budapest.

Before the war few of us even knew what a Yugo-Slav was, while many of us had visited Austria, had liked the life and the people we found there, and had kept alive an almost romantic attachment for the virile and fascinating Hungarian nation. That Austria has been an inveterate disturber of the peace in South-Eastern Europe, a scheming, grasping and reactionary Power, and that the Hungarians have tried with remorseless consistency to stamp out every vestige of nationality among the races under their sway—all this was hidden from us.

And the effect of our ignorance, reinforced by the fact that hardly anywhere have our armies clashed directly with those of Austria-Hungary, has been to confuse the popular mind on the subject of the Dual Monarchy. We realise perfectly that Germany must be beaten and Belgium freed. We do not realise with equal clearness that Austria-Hungary must be beaten and the Southern Slavs freed. We instinctively, though without the smallest justification, put the Hapsburgs on a lower scale of criminality than the Hohenzollerns. We think more kindly of Vienna than of Berlin. We have half-forgotten that it was Austria-Hungary, aggressive and intolerant as ever, that furnished the occasion of this war. We have looked upon her almost as a reluctant tool instead of the willing accomplice of German ambitions; and our statesmen have toyed with the idea of detaching her from her present partnership—on terms that would inevitably enable her to continue her career of spoliation and oppression—with a light-heartedness and a short-sightedness that have amazed and disheartened our gallant Italian Allies.

To all these feeblenesses the Rome Conference is the right corrective. It should make us understand that the liberation of the subject races of Austria-Hungary is one of the supreme issues of the war, that however much we may regard her policies and her power as of secondary moment, to Italy, who for three years has kept 1,000,000 Austro-Hungarians engaged on her frontiers, they are crucially important, and that the Allies will have failed in their aims and will have omitted an indispensable step towards the lasting peace of South-Eastern Europe so long as a single race that desires its freedom is forced to bend once more beneath the Hapsburg yoke.

THE FATE OF HOLLAND.

A Review of 1914 History.

On August 4th, 1914, the German Foreign Secretary cabled as follows to the German Ambassador in London:—

"Please dispel any mistrust that may exist on the part of the British Government, by repeating most positively formal assurance that, even in the case of armed conflict with Belgium, Germany will, under no pretence whatever, annex Belgian territory. Sincerity of this declaration is borne out by fact that we solemnly pledge our word to Holland strictly to respect her neutrality. It is obvious that we could not profitably annex Belgian territory without making at the same time territorial acquisitions at expense of Holland."

The statement that in German eyes, the annexation of Belgium implies annexation of some parts of Holland was made nearly four years ago. It still stands. So far as is known the German Government has not disowned it. How, then, does Holland stand in relation to Germany to-day?

There can be no doubt whatever that if Germany gains the victory which she expects in the field certain "territorial acquisitions" will be made at the expense of Belgium. The famous Reichstag resolution is now generally discredited; but, in any case, even if peace negotiations were conducted by the letter of it, they would be interpreted in the Brecht-Litvak spirit, whose manifestations easily cover all the ground required by the most enthusiastic Pan-German. For there is no pretence nowadays of regarding the solemn

pledge quoted above. Circumstances, the German apologists would tell us, alter cases, and a German victory after four years of suffering means a Belgian annexation.

But if the pledge is to be broken the plain statement of the German Foreign Office view remains:— "It is obvious that we could not profitably annex Belgian territory without making at the same time territorial acquisitions at the expense of Holland." If it was obvious to the German mind then, is it not just as obvious now? And is not the danger very much nearer?

But the danger was very near in 1914; how near many people do not realise. These are the facts: The German Government invaded Belgium deliberately. "Necessity knows no law" was all the apology the Chancellor could make. But an excuse was preferable to an apology, and Gen. von Emmich provided one for Belgian consumption. Here is his proclamation to the Belgian people:—

"To my very great regret the troops of Germany find themselves obliged to cross the frontier of Belgium. They act under the compulsion of an inevitable necessity, Belgian neutrality having been violated by French officers who, under a disguise, have crossed Belgian territory in motor-cars in order to enter Germany."

That was the excuse. It was the only one of the many inventions of the Wolff Bureau which von Emmich could remember at the moment.

In those first days of August the German Government invented "breaches of neutrality" by the dozen. They have all been disproved by the Governments concerned and Germany has then dropped them. But in this particular lie Holland has a distinct interest, as will be seen.

Here is the original story, as sent out by Wolff on August 2nd:— "Coblenz, 2nd August.—The Prefect of Dusseldorf announces that this morning eighty French officers, clothed in Prussian uniforms, attempted in twelve motor cars to cross the Prussian frontier near Walbeck, west of Feldern. The attempt failed."

The story proclaims its own absurdity. That the French Secret Service would open its campaign with a travelling circus of twelve large cars packed with eight disguised Prussian spies (counting the chauffeurs) is a tale for comic opera, not for history books. But, though it is absurd, it has a very real significance, and the significance is in the place chosen for the crossing of the frontier. For to have reached "Walbeck west of Geldern" the eighty French officers would have had to cross Holland.

In other words, when this lie was invented it was invented with a view to a possible invasion of Holland. "To my very great regret," von Emmich was getting ready to say, "the troops of Germany find themselves obliged to cross the frontier of Holland."

Presumably Germany thought better of it; on second thoughts it would not be profitable. Neither would it be "profitable" to annex Belgian territory without territorial acquisitions at the expense of Holland. In other words Holland's fate depends entirely upon the outcome of the present battle. If Germany wins, only a child could suggest that "pledges" will be allowed to weigh against "profits."

After two Centuries.

For the first time for over two centuries the remnant of King Charles's old Palace of Whitehall, now the Museum of the Royal United Services Institution, was recently put to its original purpose as a banquet hall. The occasion was a luncheon given by the Ministry of Information to the members of the American Mission before they left for France. It seemed in accord with the fitness of things that the representatives of the great democracy of the West should be entertained in a building so intimately connected with the English struggle for liberty. Nor was it unfitting, as the chairman, Colonel Sir Campbell Stuart, remarked, that the invitation should come from one of his name.

TRANS-PACIFIC WIRELESS.

Japanese Government Scheme.

The Japanese Department of Communications has decided to establish a high-power wireless service between Japan and the United States at an expenditure of ¥780,000, to be spread over the present and next financial years. The authorities are considering the selection of sites for offices, and it is expected that full particulars of the project will be shortly announced. With regard to the project, Mr. Watanabe, Chief of Foreign Communications in the Department of Communications, says:—

"Of late there has been a great increase in the number of telegrams between Japan and the United States, and as a result messages are often delayed—so much so that some time ago telegrams beyond Guam were delayed for no less than 100 hours. The best means of meeting this situation is to lay down a new cable, but this is impossible at present for financial reasons, for it would cost no less than ¥8,800,000 to lay a cable as far as Guam. As the only practicable alternative it has now been decided to inaugurate a wireless service between Japan and the United States. The existing wireless service between Fukuoka (Chiba Prefecture) and Hawaii is over a distance of 3,340 miles, while the longest wireless service before the outbreak of war was between the United States and Germany, a distance of 3,300 miles. The proposed service is from Japan to San Francisco, a distance of 4,800 miles. As a direct through service, this will be the longest in the world."

GERMAN FRIENDSHIP FOR JAPAN.

Embarrassing Kindness.

Dr. Matsunaga, President of the Fukuoka Prefectural Hospital, who some days ago returned to Japan from Switzerland, where he has been studying medicine for two years, is quoted by the *Mainichi* as stating that he resided for some time in the city of Basel, which is situated quite close to the German frontier, and where many Germans have taken up permanent residence. In fact, Dr. Matsunaga says 70 per cent. of the population of the city are Germans, and the city is German to all intents and purposes.

The German residents are very friendly to the Japanese says Dr. Matsunaga, and describe themselves as having the same national characteristics as themselves. The kindness and consideration shown to the Japanese is, indeed, carried to such an extent as to make the recipients of the attentions feel rather uncomfortable. Some of the German newspapers and periodicals recently published articles pointing out the inadvisability of making enemies of all the great world Powers, and urging the necessity of concluding an alliance with Japan.

Dr. Matsunaga is further represented as stating that Germany has a more ample supply of food-stuffs than is generally supposed by the outside public. She is not suffering from food shortage in the proper sense of the term. The general view obtaining among the Germans is that the war will come to an end within eight months.

"Stuck-Up" Clergymen.

One reason why the Church has failed to get into touch with the working classes is that the clergy's manners are mistaken for haughtiness and "stuck-up-ness," said the Rev. J. C. Banham, vicar of St. James's, Holloway, at the Queen's Hall, recently.

Useful War Hobby. Sir Francis Fox, J.P., of Wimbledon, who has collected large quantities of old maps and drawings, has, by separating the cloth material from the paper, been able to send 10,000 pieces of holland, linen, calico, muslin, and nainsook to hospitals for bandages, slings, &c.

HONGKONG MILITARY SERVICE FORCE.

A Further List of Enrolled Men.

The *Gazette* notifies that the following persons shall, as from the date of publication of this List, (July 19) be deemed to have been enrolled in, and to belong to, the General Military Service Force of Hongkong:—
Gordon Maurice Cook.
Kennedy Bremner Reid.
Alfred Morley.
John Colin Finch.
Reginald Dixon Wilks.
Charles Crawford Stark.
Joshua Brook.
William Thomas Elton.
John Watkin.

Permitted to Proceed Home. The *Gazette* also notifies that the following have been permitted to proceed to the United Kingdom for the purpose of enlisting in His Majesty's regular forces:—

L. H. Lovely.
J. A. Ridgway.
J. H. Ramsay.
R. T. Barton.
F. A. Britton.
P. Langdon.
O. Aitken.
M. Kennelly.
R. McFall.
P. J. Murphy.
M. Murphy.
A. Marks.
J. Stout.
W. E. Wilson.

CHURCH SERVICES.

St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong.—8th Sunday after Trinity, 21st July, 1918. Holy Communion (7.50 a.m.). Matins (11 a.m.). Responses: Ferial. Venite: Barnaby. Psalm: Smart, Pye and Smart. Te Deum: Lawes, Cooke and Hopkins. Jubilate: Jones (12th morning). Hymns: 209, 550. God Save the King. N.B.—Psalm 105, verses 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 31, 32, 33, 34, 40, & G.P. in unison. Hymn 209, verse 1 in unison. Hymn 550, verses 1 & 5, in unison. Holy Communion (12 noon). Evensong (6 p.m.). Responses: Ferial. Psalms: Croft and Medley. Magnificat: Woodward (28th morning). Nunc Dimittis: Purcell (28th evening). Hymns: 271, 264, 27. N.B.—Psalm 104, verses 1, 12, 17, 28, 39, 45 & 46, in unison. Hymn 271, verses 1 & 4 in unison. Hymn 264, verse 1 in unison. Hymn 271, verses 1 & 4 in unison.

St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon.—8th Sunday after Trinity, 21st July, 1918. Holy Communion after Morning Service. Morning Prayer 11 a.m. Responses: Ferial. Venite: Barnaby. Psalms: As set. N.B.—Verse 1 and 2, 41 and 42 in unison. Te Deum: Oakley in F. 15th evening. Jubilate: Goodson. Kyrie: Mendelssohn. Hymn: 385. Hymn: 49 (First 2 and last 2 verses). Hymn: 336. Hymn: 383. God Save the King. Evening Prayer 6 p.m. Responses: Ferial. Psalms: 73. Croft and Medley. N.B.—Verses 45 and 46 in unison. Magnificat: Jones, 4th evening. Nunc Dimittis: Felton. Hymn: 315. Hymn: 24. Hymn: 193. Hymn: 396 (Tune 45). Vesper Hymn. God Save the King.

Union Church, Kennedy Road.—Sunday Services, July 21st. Morning 11. Hymns: 379, 565, 284, 300. Evening 6. Hymns: 384, 70, 246, 405. Subject: Unconfessed Adherents. Baptismal Service. Preacher: Rev. J. Kirk. Maconachie. St. Peter's Church, West Point.—Sunday, June 16, 1918. 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon. The Gospel Hall.—(No. 10 and 12 Pedder Street). Weekly Services.—Sunday, Breaking of Bread, 11 a.m. Gospel Meeting, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Exposition of Scripture, 8 p.m. Friday, Bible Class for Ladies, 5.30 p.m. Saturday, Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m.

Wesleyan Methodist Church, Wanchai.—Sunday Morning Service 10.15 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Soldiers and Sailors' Home Arsenal Street.—Sunday Evening, Gospel Services 8 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road.—Mass and Sermon at 10 a.m. followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Roman Catholic Cathedral, Glenally.—Low Masses at 6, 7, and 9.30 a.m. High Mass at 8 a.m. 5.30 p.m.—Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

First Church of Christ Scientists.—MacDonnell Road. Sunday, 11.15 a.m. Wednesday, 5.30 p.m.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from page 1.)

THE SIBERIAN SITUATION.

London, July 18.
The "Times" correspondent at Tokio, telegraphing on July 15, says: The Diplomatic Advisory Council should have met to-day to approve of the Government decisions in connection with the American proposals for joint American and Japanese intervention, but the meeting was postponed owing to opposition by two members who considered the situation in Siberia not critical enough to necessitate Japanese action. The "Times" correspondent at Peking, telegraphing on the 15th, says: The Czech-Slovaks are advancing from Irkutsk along the railway south of Lake Baikal. Col. Semenov is again engaging the Bolsheviks.

PEASANT MOVEMENT IN RUSSIA.

Zurich, July 17.
The "Cracow-Czas" reports a new peasant movement in the Governments of Kieff and Podolia. The peasants are well armed, including artillery. They have occupied several towns, stopped agricultural work and compelled the landowners to make a hurried flight. The bulk of the harvest in Podolia has been destroyed despite the close guard of German soldiers.

GERMAN DESIGNS ON MOSCOW.

London, July 18.
A wireless Russian official message states that Germany has requested Russia's consent to the despatch of a German battalion to guard the Embassy at Moscow. They disclaimed any intention to occupy Moscow. The Government replied that it was prepared to furnish a trustworthy and sufficient Russian guard and could in no case permit the presence of a foreign military detachment in Moscow. It hoped Germany would not insist.

MORE BRITISH AERIAL RAIDS.

London, July 18.
An Air Ministry official says: Aeroplanes on Tuesday night bombed works at Hatedingen and Burbach with good results, causing appreciable damage. They also bombed an aerodrome with good results. All returned. Our aeroplanes on Wednesday successfully attacked railway sidings at Thionville. All returned.

HONOURS FOR AMERICAN GENERALS.

London, July 17.
The Press Bureau announces that General Pershing has been appointed to the Order of the Grand Cross of the Bath; General March, Chief of the American General Staff, and General Tasker Bliss, representative at Versailles, have received Grand Crosses of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

MORE AMERICAN TROOPS.

London, July 17.
Sir L. Chiozza Money announced that 330,000 American troops had been transported in British ships to Europe during April, May and June out of a total of nearly 640,000 and arrangements are being made whereby larger numbers will be carried in future. (Cheers.)

SERBIANS FACED WITH STARVATION.

London, July 17.
Reuter learns from an official Serbian source that Austria-Hungary has confiscated the whole of this year's Serbian harvest as well as the rations allowed the previous year. The Serbians therefore are faced with starvation besides which they are experiencing a further reign of cruelty and terror.

NEW BANKING COMBINE.

London, July 18.
The "Times" says the Government has sanctioned the amalgamation whereby Lloyd's Bank takes over the Capital and Counties Bank and acquires control of the National Bank of Scotland and the London and River Plate Bank. The proposal to include the National Bank of India in this combine was not sanctioned.

THE GERMANS IN CHINA.

Amsterdam, July 18.
It is officially announced in Berlin that Germany's ratification of the Hague prisoners agreement depends on a satisfactory settlement of the position of the Germans in China.

CHOLERA IN PETROGRAD.

Copenhagen, July 17.
Travellers from Petrograd state that five hundred cases of cholera occur in Petrograd daily and thousands at Saratov. The epidemic is extending to Finland.

AUSTRIA'S FOOD CRISIS.

Amsterdam, July 17.
Dr. von Seidler suddenly convoked the Cabinet and party leaders on Saturday night to consider the menacing food situation and the news from the south-western front.

ALLIED ECONOMIC COMMISSION.

Amsterdam, July 17.
America, France, Italy and Britain are establishing an Inter-Allied Economic Commission at The Hague to deal with the work connected with Netherlands imports and exports hitherto carried on by the various Legations.

AUSTRIAN GENERAL SHELVED.

Amsterdam, July 17.
A message from Vienna says: The Emperor has sent a letter to Field Marshal Conrad Hotzendorf granting his request to be relieved of his command and appointing him a Colonel of his bodyguard, a hereditary honour.

BULGARIA AND TURKEY.

Amsterdam, July 18.
The "Hamburger Nachrichten" states that the difference between Bulgaria and Turkey over the future of Dobruja mentioned on 22nd June continues undiminished.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, July 17.
An Italian official message says: The British penetrated the lines south-eastward of Asiago inflicting heavy losses and prisoner twenty-four. The enemy heavily stormed our advanced line southward of Coltasson, but was driven back.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

JAPANESE BATTLESHIP DISASTER.

Tokio, July 17.
The warship Kawachi sank in four minutes. The cause of the disaster is unknown. The captain and four hundred of the crew were saved. The whole complement of the vessel was eleven hundred.

THE DUTCH CONVOY.

London, July 17.
In the House of Commons, replying to Captain Beldairs, Mr. Balfour stated that the Dutch convoy would not be immune from search on its return journey.

GENERAL ELECTION FORESHADOWED.

London, July 18.
The "Times" states that a General Election is probable in November. The Nationalist members will return to the House of Commons on Tuesday.

GERMANS KILLED BY OWN AIRMEN.

Paris, July 17.
The Germans air-raided a prisoners camp at Troyes when 94 Germans were killed and 74 wounded.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS.

London, July 17.
There are increases in imports amounting to £15,538,107, and in exports of £11,374,568 as compared with June last year.

LORD HALDANE'S HISTORIC DISPATCH.

British Effort to Preserve Peace.

"I did the utmost in my power to preserve the peace of the world," said Lord Haldane at Swindon on Tuesday, "and I am proud of it now." The Lichnowsky memorandum and the comments made upon it are a complete justification for Lord Grey's policy and of Lord Haldane's effort in 1912 on behalf of the Government to bring about conditions which would preserve European peace. Extracts have been made from time to time from the dispatch which Lord Haldane wrote after his visit to Berlin in 1912. This dispatch took the form of a diary, in which Lord Haldane gave an account of his interviews with the Kaiser, Bethmann-Hollweg, the Chancellor, Admiral Tirpitz, and others. It was dated February 8, 1912, and began as follows:—

"At the interview with the Chancellor which took place at two o'clock, and lasted for more than an hour and a half, I began by giving him the message of good wishes for the conversations and for the future of Anglo-German relations with which the King had entrusted me at the audience I had before leaving. He was pleased with this message, and intimated that he would write through the German Ambassador to thank the King. I then said that perhaps it would be convenient if I defined the capacity in which I was in Berlin, and there to talk to him; and I defined it as above intimated. I proceeded to ask whether he wished to make any observations or desired that I should begin. He wished me to begin, and I went on at once to speak to him as arranged in a conversation I had had with Sir Edward Grey before leaving London."

"I told him that I felt there had been a great deal of drifting away between Germany and England, and that it was important to ask what was the cause. To ascertain this, events of recent history had to be taken into account. Germany had built up, and was building up, magnificent armaments, and with the aid of the Triple Alliance she had become the centre of a tremendous group. The natural consequence was that other Powers had tended to approximate. I was not questioning for a moment Germany's policy, but this was the natural and inevitable consequence in the interests of security. We used to have much the same situation with France when she was very powerful on the sea that we had with Germany now. While the fact to which I referred created a difficulty, the difficulty was not insuperable; for two groups of Powers might be on very friendly relations if there was only an increasing sense of mutual understanding and confidence. The present seemed to me to be a favourable moment for a new departure. The Moroccan question was now out of

the way, and we had no agreements with France or Russia except those that were in writing and published to the world.

"The Chancellor interrupted me, and asked me whether this was really so. I replied that I could give him the assurance that it was so without reserve, and that in the situation which now existed I saw no reason why it should not be possible for us to enter into a new and cordial friendship, carrying the two old ones into it, perhaps, to the profit to Russia and France as well as Germany herself. He replied that he had no reason to differ from this view.

"In connection with my remarks as to the events of last summer, he interposed that we had military preparations. I replied that no preparations had been made which were other than those required to bring the capacity of the British Army in point of mobilisation to something approaching the standard which Germany had long ago reached, and which was with her a matter of routine. For this purpose we had studied our deficiencies and modes of operation. . . . We could not be caught unprepared."

"The Chancellor seemed much pleased with Lord Haldane's explanation, and said: 'There had been much talk of our fleet and our army, and the steps we had taken, but that he understood the position I had indicated.' 'I said, in reply, that it was a pleasure to me to hear this, and that I hoped I should carry him with me still further in my belief that if Germany had really, which I did not at all suppose, intended to crush France and destroy her capacity to defend herself, we in England would have had such a direct interest in the result that we could not have sat by and seen this done.

"He said he did not dissent from this view nor did he wish to hamper our freedom in such a case. But he wished to propose a formula; the balance of power was a phrase he did not like, though he admitted that the historical considerations I had referred to made it natural that some grouping should take place, and that England should lean towards the weaker side. He had, however, proposed, in his communication to us, a formula of neutrality which might go a long way to help.

"I said I cordially agreed with the good intention of his formula, the working of which was that neither was to enter into any combinations against the other. If this meant combinations for attack or aggression, I was entirely of his mind. But I must put on speculation looking at his words, and, first of all, I would put on German spectacles. How would Germany find herself if, when bound by such a formula, we were so wicked as to attack her ally Austria or to try to grab Denmark, which was of deep strategic interest to her? Again, suppose Germany joined in an attack on Japan or Portugal or Belgium—then I said I really hadn't all our treaties

sufficiently in my head to be sure about Holland as I was about the others. Or if, I added, Germany were to pounce upon France and proceed to dismember her, what would happen? He answered that these cases were not at all likely, but he admitted that they were fatal to his formula. I asked him whether he would be satisfied with 'mutual undertakings against aggressive or unprovoked attacks and against all combinations, military and naval agreements and plans directed to the purpose of aggression and unprovoked attack. He said it was very difficult to define what was meant by aggression or unprovoked attack. I replied that you could not define the number of grains which it took to make a heap, but one knew a heap when one saw one. . . .

"We then passed on to the question of the German fleet, as to which he asked me whether I would like to make any observations. I said I must. He said I had been talking with the most absolute candour and friendliness to each other, and I felt he would regard me as wanting in character were I not very frank with him about the new Navy Law. What was the use of entering into a solemn agreement for concord and against attack if Germany at the same moment was going to increase her battle fleet as a precaution against us, and we had consequently to increase our battle fleet as a precaution against her? This was vital from our point of view, because we were an island Power dependent for our food supplies on the power of protecting our commerce, and for this we needed the two-Power standard and a substantial preponderance in battle fleets. He said that it was absolutely essential to Germany to have a third squadron in full readiness for war. At present, owing to her system of recruiting, for three months in the year she had virtually, owing to the necessity for training recruits, no fleet ready at all. I said I did not contest this; she was entitled to have it if she thought it necessary, but the result would be that we should not be able to rely on the two battle squadrons and reserve squadrons which had sufficed hitherto, but that we should be compelled to have five or even six squadrons ready in home waters, perhaps bringing ships from the Mediterranean to strengthen them.

"He asked me was that necessary if we had a friendly agreement? I said it would be a less convincing proof of friendliness if Germany prepared her third squadron, and we should have no option. Still, I said, this was not so serious as the proposal to add a third ship every second year to the German construction programme. This would put us in great difficulties so far as securing the good opinion of the public in England about the value of an agreement. We should certainly have to proceed at once to lay down two keels to each one of the new German additions and that would cost money and cause feeling. It was true that each country could bear the additional cost without difficulty. They were rich and so were we. If it was for the purpose of the Navy our people would not complain, in my opinion, of the addition of another shilling to the income tax, but it would be a great pity. He asked was that really likely to be our programme, the laying down of two additional keels for each German one? I said I had no doubt that it would be the result, and the Government would be turned out if they failed to accomplish it; and therefore some modification seemed to be of the utmost importance, if the agreement was to be a real success.

"After a pause he said 'he would consider this and die Sache uberlegen.' The conversation up to this point had been largely in German, I taking to English whenever there was a delicate topic, and the Chancellor occasionally speaking English, but nearly always German. I ordered to avoid misunderstanding, we sometimes repeated sentences in the other language. I was impressed by his evident desire to meet us wherever he could, and I derived considerable hope from the manner and emphasis with which he said that he would reconsider the question of the

ships. But I must add that he went to say that the question of the new squadron was vital, and that some new ships would be necessary in it. Could I suggest any way out, for they must keep to the plan of a new law? I observed that it was not for me to venture to make any suggestion to his Excellency, but that a spreading out in time of the new programme might make a difference. He said, 'Perhaps, eight or nine years'; I added, 'Or twelve, if he could not do better.' He again said that he would take this matter into serious consideration and consult his experts. 'My admirals,' he said, 'are very difficult.' That was an experience, I observed, which was sometimes found in England also."

On the following day, February 9, Lord Haldane had an interview with the Emperor, the Chancellor, and Admiral Tirpitz on the navy, at which Tirpitz held out for the new German naval programme, which was discussed at great length. Lord Haldane wrote:—

"I insisted that fundamental modification was essential. The tone was thoroughly friendly, but I felt that I had come to the most difficult part of my talks of getting material fit to bring back for the consideration of my colleagues. The utmost I was able to get was this: The Emperor was so disturbed at the idea that the world would not believe in the reality of the agreement unless the shipbuilding programme was modified that he asked me what I would suggest. I said that it was a too technical matter for me to discuss here, but that if he would not drop the new law—which I saw he felt he could not—he might at least drop out a ship. This idea was never abandoned, but Admiral Tirpitz combated it so hard that I said, 'Well, can we not spread the tempo?' After much talking we got to this, that, as I insisted that they must not inaugurate the agreement by building an additional ship at once, they should put off building the first ship till 1913, and then should not lay down another till three years after (1916), and not lay down the third till 1919.

"Admiral Tirpitz wanted us to give some understanding about our own shipbuilding. He thought the two-Power standard a hard one for Germany, and, indeed, Germany could not make any admission about it. I said it was not a matter of admission. Germany must be free and we must be free, and we should probably lay down two keels to their one. In this case the initiative was not with us but with them. An idea occurred to all of us on the observation that we should try to avoid defining a standard proportion in the agreement, and that, indeed, we should say nothing at all about shipbuilding in the agreement, but if the political agreement was concluded the Emperor should at once announce to the German public that this entirely new fact modified his desire for the Fleet Law as originally conceived, and that it should be delayed and spread out to the extent we had discussed. For the rest, each of us would remain masters in our own houses as far as naval matters were concerned.

"The Emperor thought the agreement would effect profoundly the tendency in shipbuilding, and he certainly should not desire to go beyond the three ships. The fact of the agreement was the key to everything. The Chancellor, he said, would propose to me this afternoon a formula which he had drafted. I said that I would see the Chancellor and discuss any further territorial questions with him, and would then return as speedily as I could and report the good disposition which I had found to my colleagues, and leave the difficulties of not being able to stop shipbuilding more completely, and, indeed, all other matters, to their judgement. I could only assure the Emperor that I had been much struck with the friendly disposition in Berlin, and that he would find a not less friendly disposition in London."

Lord Haldane mentions that he was in communication with M. Jules Cambon, the French Ambassador in Berlin, and

DEMAND FOR HOUSES.

New Opening for Brokers in Japan.

There seems to be no end to the operations of "brokers" in this country, says the *Japan Chronicle*. After the share, rice, yarn, telephone, freight space, and parcels-post brokers come a new variety. The scarcity of unoccupied houses has produced a large number of brokers, whose business it is to keep a book in which a list of unoccupied houses is entered, which is shown to intending renters in return for a fee. This is legitimate business, but the brokers resort to various unscrupulous practices, like so many brokers in other lines. Intending renters pay their fee, and on going to the addresses given, find the house occupied, for some brokers do not cavil at entering on their books occupied houses as well as unoccupied ones.

Another practice is to rent houses that may be available and sell the lease of such buildings for a fabulous price to those who are badly in need of accommodation. The police authorities of Osaka have decided to take measures to prevent these practices from July 16th next.

I have been stated in Japanese papers that if a man drags along a hand cart with furniture on it, he is approached by house-hunters asking from where he is moving the things, and on being told, the house-hunters rush off there so as to capture the house should it perchance be empty.

The Health Return.

During yesterday there were notified four cases of plague (two fatal) and two non-fatal occurrences of spotted fever. The sufferers were all Chinese.

recounted his conversations to him. The Ambassador quite appreciated that the purpose of the mission was to create a detente as distinguished from an entente. M. Jules Cambon reported his conversation with Lord Haldane to M. Poincare:

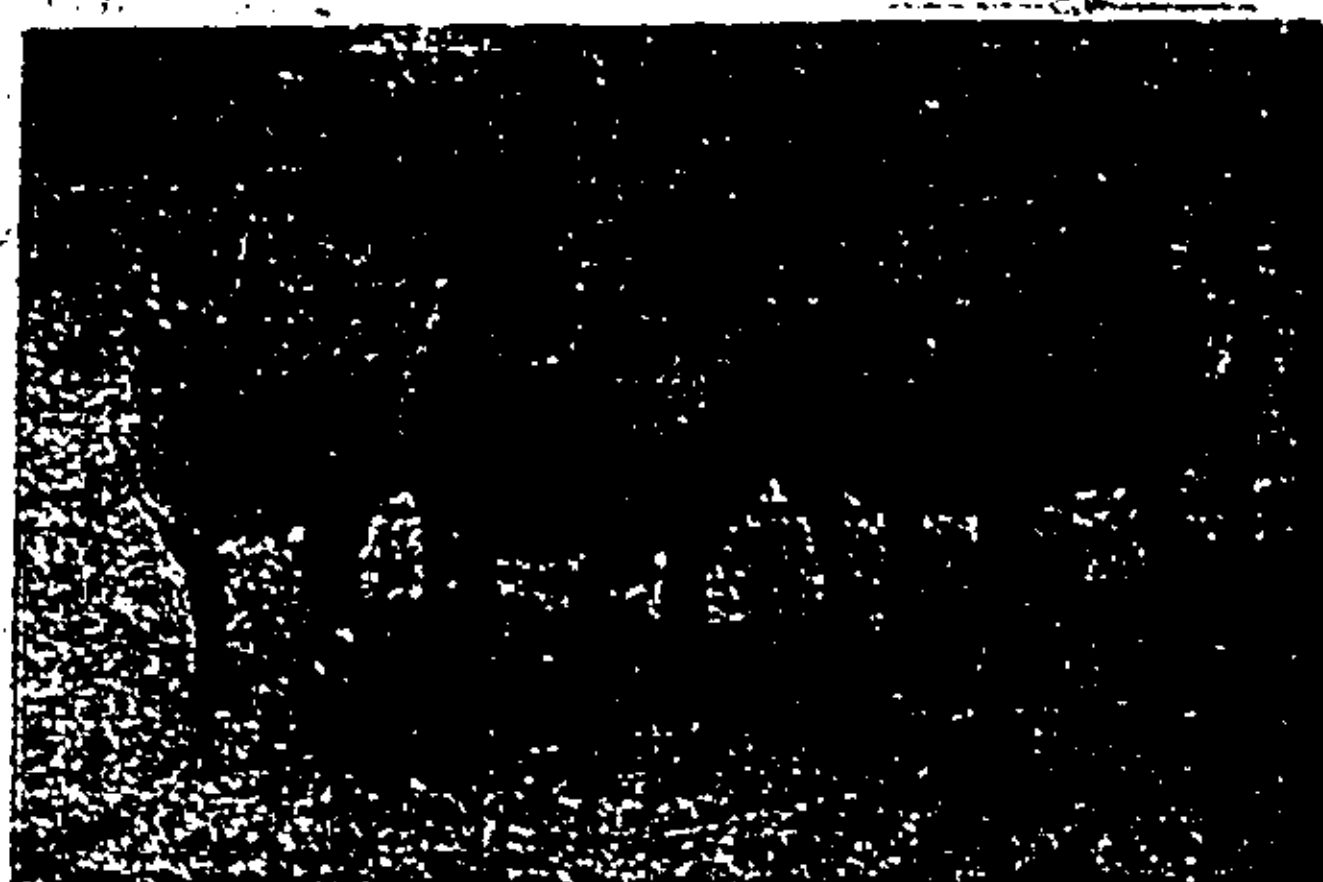
Lord Haldane had another conversation with the Chancellor in the hope of arriving at a formula with regard to the navy. The Chancellor said that the "forces he had to contend with were almost insuperable. Public opinion in Germany expected a new law and the third squadron, and he must have three. I said we could not contest Germany's right to do in these matters and indeed in other matters as she pleased. But why not postpone the shipbuilding for longer and adapt the law accordingly?"

"The Chancellor said he would try. He asked me to consult the experts in London and make a suggestion. I had said, he remarked, that everything was good only on balance, and Germany must for a greater end give up a minor advantage. The new squadron and the new Fleet Law she must have, but it was a question for the experts, on which he did not pronounce, whether a retardation of greater magnitude than Tirpitz's proposed might not be possible. I promised to let him know privately the state of feeling here about the Tirpitz proposals on my return."

The Ministers then endeavoured to arrive at a formula, the whole purpose of which was to bring about conditions which would prevent war; to endeavour to get a definition of the duty of neutrality; and, in the event of war, to combine in order to localise the conflict.

After Lord Haldane's return to London negotiations in search of a formula were continued. Prince Lichnowsky preserved a friendly atmosphere, but the German Government never agreed to conditions which would have safeguarded the neutrality of Belgium or maintained her honourable obligations to our Allies. The nearest they got at the eleventh hour was, as Lord Grey said, "far to narrow an engagement for us."

DAIRY FARM NEWS.



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WE PUT UP

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IN KEGS OR CASKS

FOR EXPORT OR STEAMERS' USE.

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Omnibus and Private.

on application.

Codes,—A.B.C., 5th. A.Z. Français,
Omnibus and Private.

ELSHI ONO, Manager
Hongkong 11th March 1918

The "Three Castles" Cigarettes

FOR
EVERYDAY
SMOKING.

"The Cigarette
with the
Pedigree"



A FAMOUS MEDIUM.

A Remarkable Woman's Death.

The death is announced from Naples of the famous medium Eusapia Palladino, at the age of 64.

Eusapia Palladino had been called "the despair of science." She was unquestionably first among spiritualistic mediums, and although there were those, including Mr. Maskelyne, who bluntly declared her a fraud, she was able to convince psychologists like Lombroso and Morrelli, and scientists like Schiaparelli, Flammarion, and Mr. and Mrs. Curie that she endowed with inexplicable powers. Sir Oliver Lodge was similarly deeply impressed with her performances. She herself, it should be noted, claimed to be "merely an instrument," and not to be able to produce at will the phenomena which made her world-famous, but this statement was in contradiction of the feats of levitation, etc., which she performed on request, and it is beyond challenge that she resorted to trickery.

Her name first came before the scientific world in 1883, but she is stated to have discovered her mysterious gifts 20 years previously, when she was only 14. She visited England in 1895, and gave a number of seances at Cambridge, under the direction of Mr. Myers (secretary of the Society for Psychical Research), Professor and Mrs. Sidgwick, Dr. Richard Hodgson, and others. Mr. Myers, at any rate, remained unconvinced. Professor Lombroso, who began his investigations in 1891, asserted positively that she caused the spirit of his dead mother to appear and embrace him. Lombroso was definitely converted through her to a belief in spiritualism.

Gift from King's Wine Cellar.
Over 300 dozens of choice and rare specimens of wine from the Royal Cellar has been given by the King to the collection which is being made by the wine and spirit trade for the Red Cross.

NOTICES.

THE WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

AN Interim Dividend of Three Dollars per share for the six months ending 30th June 1918, will be payable on FRIDAY 26th July, on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from FRIDAY the 19th to FRIDAY the 26th July (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
General Agents for the West Point Building Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 10th July, 1918.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.

AN Interim Dividend of Three and half Dollars per share for the six months ending 30th June, 1918, will be payable on FRIDAY 26th July on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from FRIDAY the 19th to FRIDAY the 26th July (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 10th July, 1918.

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NOTICES.

ASAHI BEER.



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Telephone 300 & 124.

MASSAGE HALL
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MR. T. TAKAYE,
MRS. MORITA.
CERTIFICATED MASSEURS.
PILGRIMS TRAILERS & TRAVEL OWN HOMES
11, H. DUNN.

POST OFFICE.

The Importation by post into Japan of foreign rice, except such as may be imported by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and the persons designated by him, is prohibited.

This prohibition is not applicable to rice imported into Taiwan (Formosa) and Karabuto (Japanese Saghalien).

The Parcel Post Service to the Portuguese Colonies in West Africa and to Spanish Colonies in Morocco (except for Prisoners-of-War) is suspended.

Until further notice parcels for civil addresses in the provinces of Udine, Vicenza, Treviso, Padua, Venice, and Belluno in Italy will not be accepted for transmission unless posted under the British War Office Permit.

On and after May 1st 1918, Imperial Postal Orders will be cashed in India at the rate of 1/6 to the rupee.

The amount of the charge per parcel is fixed at 5 sen per day after the expiration of the period stipulated.

Registered and Parcel Mails close 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated.

No unofficial letter addressed to Abadan, Ahwaz or Mohammara in the Persian Gulf may exceed eight ounces in weight.

From the 1st May 1918 there will be three General deliveries daily from the District Post Office except on Sunday and Holidays when there will be one delivery only.

The hours of delivery will be as follows:—Week days 9 a.m. 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.
Sundays and Holidays noon.

The Importation into the Commonwealth of Australia of tea, other than that grown or produced in British Possessions is prohibited, unless the consent in writing of the Commonwealth Minister for Trade and Customs has been first obtained.

Information has been received from the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, India, that on and after 1st April 1918, the Post Office of Japan will collect a demurrage charge from the addressee of parcels on which Customs duties or inland taxes are imposed in Japan, not withdrawn from the Post Office within 20 days from the date of the notice of their arrival to be sent to the addressee.

The Parcel Post Service to British East Africa and Egypt (except for members of the Expeditionary Force), and to Abyssinia, Bagdad, Brithra, French Somali Coast, Italian Somaliland, Portuguese East Africa, Zanzibar and Russia have been suspended.

The Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, India, advises that: "The Parcel Post Service to the Indian Civil Postal Agencies at Abul Khash, Amara, Bagdad, Basra, Berra City, Fao, Kut, Nasiriyah, Qadisiyah, Sak-sak-Shaykh and Zubair in Mesopotamia is suspended and that piece-goods, haberdashery and similar articles, except those intended for the personal use of the addressee and not for sale, cannot be sent to those offices or to Abadan, Ahwaz or Mohammara by the letter post, and that such articles if received will not be delivered and will be liable to confiscation."

OUTWARD MAILS.

TO-MORROW.

Swatow, Amoy and Formosa via Keelung—21st July, 9 a.m.

Straits, Bangkok, Rangoon and India via Calcutta—21st July, 9 a.m.

MONDAY, 22nd July.

Swatow, Amoy & Formosa via Keelung—22nd July, 8 a.m.

Shanghai, N. China and Japan via Kobe—22nd July, 10 a.m.

Japan via Moji—22nd July, 11 a.m.

Straits, Bangkok, and India via Calcutta—22nd July, 2 p.m.

Philippine Islands, Straits and Europe via Suez—22nd July, Registration 4.15 p.m. Letters 5 p.m.

Shanghai and North China—22nd July, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, 23rd July.

Shanghai and North China—23rd July, 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 24th July.

Swatow, Amoy and Fookchow—24th July, 1 p.m.

THURSDAY, 25th July.

Philippine Islands, Sandakan, Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea via Port Darwin—25th July, Registration 1.45 p.m. Letters 2.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, 26th July.

Formosa via Keelung, Shanghai, North China, Japan via Nagasaki, Okinawa, United States, Central and S. America and Europe via Victoria, B.C.—26th July, Registration 11.45 a.m. Letters 12.30 p.m.

Philippine Islands—26th July, 3 p.m.

WEATHER REPORT.

July 19d. 12h. 33m.—No return from Japan and Vladivostok. Pressure has decreased moderately at Weihaiwei and slightly over Indo-China; it has increased slightly elsewhere. The depression has probably moved into the Yellow Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inches. Total since January 1st 43.66 inches against an average of 46.15 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON TO-MORROW.

District Forecast.

1 Hongkong to Cap Hoek. S.W. winds, moderate; fair.

2 Formosa Channel. The same as No. 1.

3 South coast of China between H.K. and Lamooki. The same as No. 1.

4 South coast of China between H.K. and Hainan. The same as No. 1.

China Coast Meteorological Register.

July 19, a.m.

Station. Hour. Barometer. Temperature. Humidity. Winds. Force. Weather.

Vostock 6a. 29.52 73 98 w 1b

Nemuro 6a. 29.51 77 95 wsw 1b

Hakodate 6a. 29.55 84 79 0b

Kochi 6a. 29.55 82 87 w 1b

Nagasaki 6a. 29.54 81 91 wsw 1b

Amoy 6a. 29.55 77 98 sw 2b

Swatow 6a. 29.60 75 96 2b

Taihou 6a. 29.61 81 97 4b

Taiwan 6a. 29.60 81 97 4b

Koahu 6a. 29.62 81 97 4b

Paores 6a. 29.59 80 91 sw 1b

Canton 6a. 29.60 82 87 sw 3c

H'kong 6a. 29.58 81 90 sw 4b

Cap Hoek 6a. 29.58 81 90 sw 4b

Macao 6a. 29.59 81 94 sw 2b

Wuchow 6a. 29.53 88 97 sw 2b

Fakhoi 6a. 29.75 75 94 0b

Holbow 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Phu Lien 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Tourane 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

O. St. J. 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Apurri 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Manila 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Legaspi 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Tacloban 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Davao 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Surigao 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Cebu 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

Luzon 6a. 29.72 79 99 4b

State of Weather, b blue sky, c detached cloud, d drizzling rain, f fog, g gloomy, h hail, i lightning, o overcast, p passing showers, q squally, r rain, s snow, t thunder, v visibility, w dew wet.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Previous Day On date On date.

Barometer 29.56 29.61 29.58

Temperature 89 82 89

Humidity 68 87 68

Wind Direction W.S.W. S.W. S.

Force 3 3 2

Weather c c c

Rain 0.00 0.00 0.00

Highest open air temperature on the 19th 10th 11th

Lowest " " " " " " " "

H.K. Observatory, July 19, 1918.

T. F. OLAXION, Director.

TIDE TABLE.

From 15th July to 21st July.

High Water Mean Time.

Low Water Mean Time.

Mean Time.

Mean Time.

Mean Time.

Mean Time.

Mean Time.

Mean Time.

Mean Time.

Mean Time.

Mean Time.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

JULY 18th, 19th & 20th

"THE SEVEN PEARLS"

EPISODE II

EPISODE 12

"THE GEMS OF JEOPARDY."

"BURIED ALIVE."

'FROM LONDON TO LARAMIE'

Two-part LONESOME LUKE Comedy.

BRITISH GAZETTE No. 452.

VICTORIA THEATRE

July 21st and 22nd.

JUDEX?

Episode 8 "The Undergrounds of The Chateau Rouge."

Episode 9 "A Miraculous Recovery"

HELLO, TEACHER!

American Gazette No. 65

ETC., ETC.

GEO. P. LAMMERT.

AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER AND SURVEYOR.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

WEDNESDAY, the 24th July 1918,

commencing at 11 a.m.

at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,

A Quantity of Valuable Blackwood and Teak Furniture

Comprising:—

Blackwood curio cabinets,

folding tables, flower stands,

wall brackets, chairs, teapots,

etc., etc.

Teak extension dining table

and chairs, morocco and tapestry

covered couches, brass mounted

iron bedsteads, double wardrobes,

porcelain vases, bronzes, incense

burners, ornaments, white lace

curtains, etc., etc.

Also

A Quantity of Silver and

Electro-plated ware.

And

1 "Miami" Motorcycle 2 1/2

H. P. (new).

1 Victrola.

1 Upright Grand Piano by

Rosenkrans.

Several Typewriters (Oliver,

Remington, etc.)

On view from Tuesday the

23rd inst.

Catalogues will be issued.

Terms:—Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT,

Auctioneer.

THE HONGKONG & SOUTH

CHINA WAR SAVINGS

ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for

Membership of the above

Association may be obtained

from all the Banks or from the

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received

instructions to sell by Public

Auction the following

VALUABLE LEASEHOLD

PROPERTY

Situate in TAI YUEN STREET,

WANCHAI, Victoria, in the

Colony of Hongkong

TO BE SOLD BY THE MORTGAGEE

By

PUBLIC AUCTION

ON

FRIDAY

the 26th day of July, 1918,

at 3 P.M.

by

MR. GEO. P. LAMMERT,

Auctioneer.

At his Sales Room in Duddell

Street, Victoria, Hongkong.

PARTICULARS OF THE

ABOVE MENTIONED

PROPERTY.

The piece or parcel of ground

situate in Victoria Hongkong

and registered in the Land Office

as Sub-sections 1, 2 and 3 (or

Remaining Portion of Section B.

of Inland Lot 508 with the

measures or tenements thereon

known as Nos. 36, 38 and 40

TAI YUEN STREET.

The property is held under a

Lease from the Crown for the

term of 999 years.

The area of the said piece or